FIRE FACT NO. 045 CHECKLIST(s) : 06
TITLE : REQUIREMENTS FOR SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
CHECKLIST ITEM(s) : 06-18, 06-20, 06-21, 06-22, 06-23
REFERENCE(s) : 91-101/31-1.3.6

Sprinkler systems are designed to quickly get water to the seat of a fire. The design of a sprinkler system is enormously complex, taking into account many different factors like available water supply, construction type, potential fuel load, and the use of the space to be protected. In order to function effectively and properly, sprinkler systems must be designed and constructed to very specific standards. Once installed, the systems must be properly maintained and tested to ensure they will work when needed.

Sprinkler systems are required in some types of facilities, regardless of whether the building is new or existing. For more information on this requirement, review the Kansas Buildings fire Safety Handbook for the specific occupancy checklists. Before new systems are installed or existing systems modified or altered in any way, plans for automatic fire sprinkler systems must be submitted to this office for review. This requirement is for the following types of facilities:

- Educational occupancies, including private schools, preschools, daycare and childcare centers, and state institutions including Board of Regents universities.
- Health care occupancies, including hospitals, adult care facilities, nursing homes, ambulatory care centers, and residential board and care facilities.
- Correction and detention facilities
- Hotels, motels, and other types of lodging

The submitted plans must include system layout diagrams, equipment cut sheets, and hydraulic calculations. See 1997 UBC Standard 9-1 section 6-1 for more clarification. Only those individuals properly trained, educated and experienced shall participate in work on these systems. A copy of the "Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Aboveground Piping," which indicates the system meets NFPA 13 and NFPA 25 standards, shall be left at the building premises.

Every new system and modified system are expected to be reviewed or under the supervision of either a Kansas licensed engineer with knowledge in automatic fire sprinkler systems or a fire protection engineer.

The design, installation, modification, inspection, and maintenance of fire sprinkler systems shall comply with all requirements of the applicable nationally promulgated codes and standards, regardless of whether or not the KSFMO required a plan or whether or not plan approval was given by any jurisdiction, including the KSFM.